(b) The proposal for notification of these varieties has not been submitted in the proforma required for notification.

(c) No other proposal from the Orissa University of Agriculture & Technology for notification of other such spices is pending.

Climate changes in agriculture

3329. SHRI MAN MOHAN SAM AL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many parts of Orissa are going drier day by day, affecting the agricultural sector adversely;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor and the measures taken by Government in respect thereof;

(c) whether Government have made any specific study to assess the impact of climatic changes on the agricultural sector of Orissa; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) According to India Meteorological Department, who among other subjects also deal with the subject of climatology, there is no evidence of a long term decreasing trend in rainfall of Orissa. However, the State exhibits a high degree of year-to- year variability of rainfall in certain districts.

Several long term measures are being taken by the State Government to improve the efficiency of water use. These are:—

(1) Minor Irrigation sources with emphasis on conjunctive use of surface and ground water are being developed in a big way by availing funds from various sources like loan from NABARD under RIDF and central schemes. About 25 thousand shallow tube wells, bore wells and river lifts have been installed during the last few years. Pani Panchayats are activated through farmer's participation for rationalizing the use of irrigation water.

(2) As paddy is the main crop that is affected by the failure of the rains, fanners are being motivated to diversify from high water using crop like paddy to low water consuming crops like pulses and oilseeds.

(3) Dry land farming methods are being propagated with emphasis on drought resistant Agricultural crops and Horticulture crops. Agro forestry crops also are being propagated. Mixed farming systems are also encouraged.

(4) Rain water harvesting and other soil and water conservation activities are being taken up under Watershed Mission specially created for this purpose.

TM on Dairy Development

3330. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMED KHAN (DURRU): Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are implementing a Technology Mission on Dairy Development;

(b) if so, whether it is being implemented in Rajasthan also;

(c) whether desired results of the Mission have been achieved; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor and the steps taken in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) to (d) The Technology Mission on Dairy Development was launched in August, 1988 which ended on 31st March 1999, also covered Rajasthan. Under this Mission 5374 additional Dairy Cooperative Societies were formed for providing animal health care; 2079 Dairy Cooperative Societies for artificial insemination, vaccination etc; frozen semen production increased from 108 lakh doses to 241 lakh doses per annum, production of additional 9538 MT of high quality fodder seed and establishment of a model system of bulk procurement, storage and delivery of liquid nitrogen for artificial insemination programme was undertaken.

MSP for oilseeds and pulses

3331. SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have hiked the Minimum Support Price for oilseeds and pulses, in a bid to encourage crop diversification;

(b) whether Government have also decided to hike the price of wheat by Rs. 10 per quintal for 2002-2003 marketing seasons;

(c) if so, what are the other decisions taken; and